

Notice of Allowability**Application No.**

10/713,617

Examiner

Virginia Manoharan

Applicant(s)

BEDNAREK ET AL.

Art Unit

1797

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment of 04/30/09.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3,8,12,13,15,18-20,24-32,36,49 and 53.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

/Virginia Manoharan/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1797

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The problem addressed by the instant method and device is to provide an improved vapor compression distillation system and associated components that increases efficiency and production capability, while decreasing the necessary power budget for system operation and the amount of system maintenance required. (See page 2, lines 10-13).

This problem is solved according to the invention by providing a distillation system that advantageously may be compact, inexpensive, and easily maintained, i.e., providing e.g., a distillation method and device comprising in combination: a sump in communication with an input for untreated liquid wherein the sump includes at least one heating element and wherein input liquid is preheated; an evaporative condenser coupled to the sump for transforming the liquid to vapor and for transforming compressed vapor into a distilled liquid product; a head chamber for collecting vapor from the evaporative condenser; a vapor pump for compressing the vapor, the vapor pump in communication with the evaporative condenser head chamber and comprising: a single continuous internal drive shaft, and at least one intake for axial feeding, an eccentric rotor with a fully rotatable housing, and wherein the evaporative condenser comprising a plurality of parallel core evaporator tubes, each tube having a first open end in communication with the sump and a second open end in communication with the head chamber. [See e.g., claim 1].

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The combination of GB 1211236, Huse (3,956,072), Stewart (1,668,532), Heinio et al (5,340,443), Morris (5,772,850) and Satchwell (3,635,283) [closest prior art] fail to disclose, teach or suggest all of the limitations found in claim 1, interalia, the evaporative condenser comprising a plurality of parallel core evaporator tubes, each tube having a first open end in communication with a sump and a second open end in communication with a head chamber and a sump in communication with the input wherein the sump comprising at least one heating element and wherein input liquid is preheated.

Thus, the subject matter of claims 1-3, 8, 12-13, 15, 18-20, 24-32, 36, 49 and 53 is neither disclosed by the prior art nor is obvious.

The claims are deemed allowable over the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicants must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Virginia Manoharan whose telephone number is 571-272- 1450.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Caldarola, can be reached on 571-272-1444.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval

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(PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Virginia Manoharan/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1797

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Atty. Michelle Saquet Temple, representative to applicants, on June 3, 2009.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 36, line 1, between "distilling" and "a", --in a distillation system – has been inserted.

Claims 1-3, 8, 12-13, 15, 18-20, 24-32, 36, 49 and 53 are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Virginia Manoharan at telephone number 571-272-1450.

/Virginia Manoharan/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1797